

Hawaii MARINE

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Feedback enables increased support

Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle
Combat Correspondent

The Military Committee for Persons with Disabilities was established aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, to improve available services for members enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program.

Through the recommendations of these families, many recent accomplishments have and will make life easier for family members with disabilities.

Now, when an emergency occurs that requires the assistance of military police or firefighters, the responding units are aware of the presence of a special needs family member with the placement of stickers on the entrances of these households.

Also, throughout the family housing areas of MCB Hawaii, drivers have been made aware of blind or deaf children at play with the installation of new street signs.

Marine Corps Base Hawaii now boasts the largest special needs resource library in the Marine Corps. A complete listing of titles is available at the Kaneohe Bay base library, to include the interlibrary exchange. Titles are cataloged under "Special Needs."

Other improvements should better recreational opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Children with disabilities will be provided with accommodations to participate in youth-related activities, at no additional cost to the supporting family members.

Individuals with sensory deprivation are allowed to enter base functions, prior to the beginning of any event. This change gives them a chance to acclimate themselves to the sights and sounds of the event, and prevents the possibility of overstressing sensory-deprived individuals in a crowded environment.

Still to come are computers for online disability awareness training, which are scheduled to be installed before the end of the month.

Positive feedback has been received from families since the successful implementation of these resources.

The EFMP said it will continually strive to make MCB Hawaii better for families who have members with disabilities.

Hawaii Marines rotate

Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle
Combat Correspondent

(Editor's Note: See page A-4 for news of Combat Service Support Group 3's deployment to Thailand for exercise "Cobra Gold '03.)

The unit deployment program assures that Marines are constantly deployed to duty stations around the world.

Recently, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463 returned from MCAS Iwakuni,

Japan, after a six-month-long deployment.

During the deployment, the Marines participated in exercise Eagle Talon in the Philippines, and conducted training missions in the Republic of South Korea.

The Flying Pegasus attained a total of more than 1,100 flying hours. They successfully flew CH 53D Sea Stallion helicopters to Iwakuni from MCAS Futenma on Okinawa, Japan, and also to Osan Air Base in Korea.

"This was a grand experience for the new guys in our unit who have never been away from home," said Maj. Paul Curran, executive officer for HMH-463. "This was a chance for them to get out and see the world while completing training they can't do in Hawaii."

"It was an awesome adventure, and we are glad to be home now."

As HMH-463 returned home from its challenging deployment,

the Red Lions of HMH 363 packed up and shipped out to Iwakuni, to accomplish training similar to that accomplished by HMH-463.

Marine Corps Base Hawaii-stationed ground combat forces also rotated deployment locations.

The Island Warriors of 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, returned home from a six-month-long

See DEPLOYMENT, A-6

Lethal Breeze hits K-Bay



Cpl. Jason E. Miller

The Federal Fire Department rinsed off dozens of victims in the simulated chemical attack on MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay called "Lethal Breeze 03", which was designed to test the base's ability to cope with such a crisis. See page A-3 for more on Lethal Breeze.

Commandant's speech motivates troops

Lance Cpl. Monroe F. Seigle
Combat Correspondent

The newly appointed Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Michael Hagee, paid a visit to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, April 10, to give a motivational speech to Marines and Sailors, and answer questions about future plans for the Corps.

Before addressing the service members, Gen. Hagee presented the Center of Safety Excellence award to Bo Irvine, director of the Base Safety Center, for establishing a comprehensive safety excellence program in 2002.

During his speech, Gen. Hagee discussed the importance of the mission of every Marine and Sailor — regardless of where sta-

tioned or what their job may be.

"There are two kinds of Marines," said the Commandant, "Marines that are over in the Gulf right now and Marines who wish they were in the Gulf right now."

After Gen. Hagee's remarks, the sergeant major of the Marine Corps, Sgt. Maj. Alford McMichael, the 14th senior en-

listed Marine to hold the position, spoke to noncommissioned officers and junior enlisted service members.

"Staff NCOs are the backbone of our Corps," said McMichael to the background sounds of loud "hoorahs" by Marines. "This has been the most prestigious job I

See COMMANDANT, A-5

Congressman Abercrombie to give PME here

Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Press Chief

The Pacific War Memorial Lecture Series is now in its official second year of operation. In 2002, University of Hawaii football head coach June Jones inaugurated the series by becoming the first featured speaker.

For 2003, U.S. Representative Neil Abercrombie, D-1st District, will be gracing the base with his

presence and sharing his wisdom to a crowd of officers, staff noncommissioned officers and civilian leaders from the base and surrounding communities at the base theater, Thursday.

Speakers involved with the lecture series are generally invited to give attendees an outside perspective of current situations that have an effect on the military. Congressman Abercrombie, who recently contest-



ABERCROMBIE

ed U.S. involvement in the Middle East, will give a lecture regarding current government and military roles in world issues.

"I think what is currently expected of our military needs some review," he said. "The role of the military has undergone some drastic changes in recent years, and I believe that it's been put in a position to deal with both policy and military doctrine. This is inappropriate."

Among other topics, he will also touch base on explaining the role of civilian leadership in the Congress, and how it af-

fects every aspect of military life.

The lecture will include a question and answer period, and the goal is to provide a first class Professional Military Education event that will intellectually challenge members of the MCB Hawaii community.

For more information regarding seat availability for this PME, contact your unit personnel support sections through your proper chain of command.

MCBH News Briefs

CONGRESSMAN ABERCROMBIE TO SPEAK AT PWM LECTURE

Pacific War Memorial Lecture Series 2-03 will feature Congressman Neil Abercrombie of Hawaii’s 1st District on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the base theater. Designed to intellectually challenge attendees, this officer professional military education lecture is open to ranks E-6 and above, their spouses, GS-7 and above , and local community leaders.

BASE CHAPEL POSTS SERVICES

In addition to its regularly scheduled services, the Base Chapel aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, will now be open Monday - Friday, with private prayer available Wednesdays and Thursdays until 8 p.m. An all-faith service will be held every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. The community is also invited to attend the following:

- Today, Good Friday*
Stations of the Cross at 11:45 a.m.
Solemn Good Friday Service at 5 p.m.
Protestant Service at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Holy Saturday*
Roman Catholic Vigil Mass at 5 p.m.
- Sunday, Easter Sunday*
Sunrise Service at 6 a.m. at Rifle Range
Roman Catholic Mass at 9:30 a.m.
Protestant Services at 8 and 11 a.m.

LOST AND FOUND’S AT MPD

If you are missing valuables or other items, contact the Lost and Found at the Military Police Department, to see if anyone has turned in the item(s). Lost items on hand include I.D. cards, bicycles, wallets, keys, cell phones and miscellaneous jewelry.

An inquiry log is maintained, in the event of item(s) being retrieved. Call Sgt. Gordon Scott at 257-2103, ext. 315, for prompt assistance.

Crime prevention is looking for neighborhood watch representatives to get involved in their communities by taking charge of local neighborhoods aboard MCB Hawaii. If you’re interested, contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 257-2103, ext. 314/315.

Hawaii MARINE

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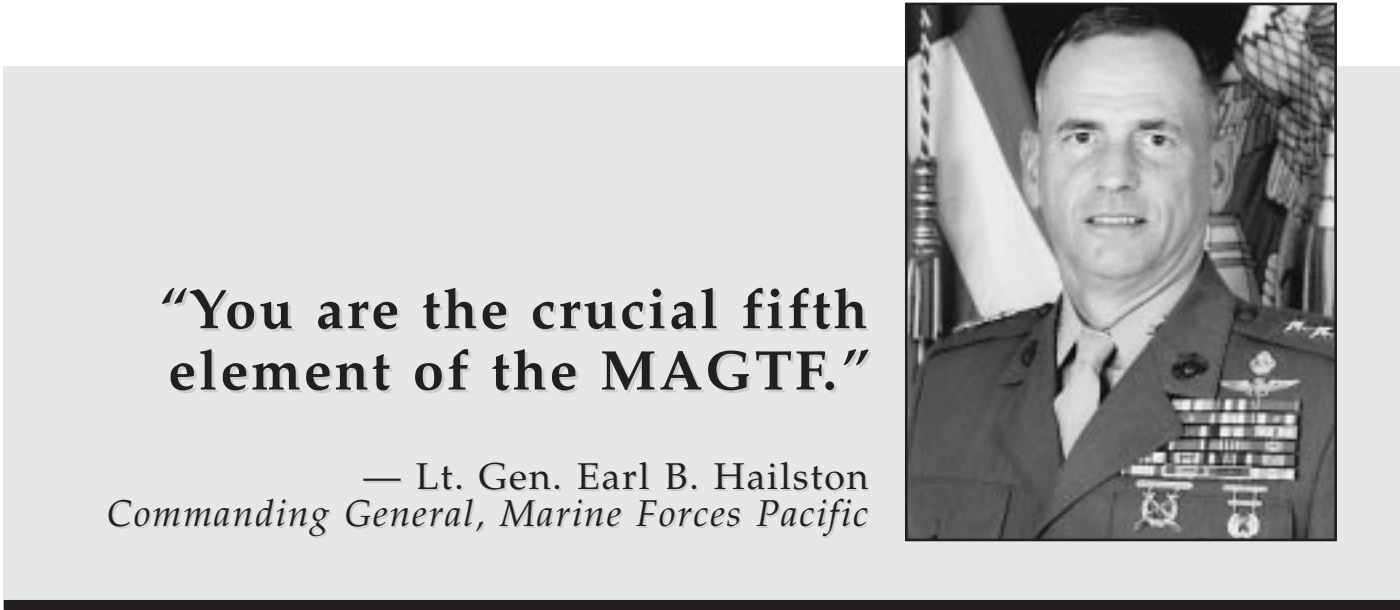
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MCB Hawaii turns 9 years old



Congratulations to all of you at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, as you celebrate your ninth anniversary, April 15, 2003.

You are continuing a legacy of support to the Pacific theater, which the Navy/Marine Corps team has been performing from the Mokapu Peninsula for more than 60 years.

This support started in 1939 with a small seaplane base, and expanded during World War II into a major training and support facility.

You’ve continued to grow and change, and have become one of the finest air/ground teams in the Pacific.

You have an indomitable commitment to excellence. This is demonstrated by the variety of programs and services you provide to more than 15,000 Marines, Sailors, civilian

employees and family members.

These services include Semper Fit, the Single Marine and Sailor Program, the Family Member Employment Program, Marine Corps Family Team Building, the Youth Activities Program and a Teen Youth Center, to name just a few.

Your commitment carries over into your relationship with the local community and the highly successful base safety and environmental programs, and has resulted in numerous awards.

Most importantly, you are the crucial fifth element of the MAGTF. The MEF units housed aboard the base could not accomplish their warfighting mission without the outstanding support provided by you.

This support includes the operation and maintenance of training ar-

eas and facilities, base security, and other important administrative functions that support the warfighters and their families.

In addition, there are numerous Marines and Sailors assigned to MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, who are deployed in support of the global war on terror and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Your tireless support of those deployed, and their families, who remain behind, is a tribute to your undying honor and selfless devotion to duty.

From all of us at Marine Forces Pacific, ‘Happy Anniversary’ and ‘Semper Fidelis’.

Lieutenant Gen. Earl B. Hailston
Commanding General
Marine Forces Pacific

DEFY lends youthful hands to aging battleship USS Missouri

Youth clean to preserve past, brighten future

Sgt. Jereme Edwards
Assistant Editor

There are organizations such as the Drug Awareness Resistance

Education program, or DARE, and the Children’s Drug Awareness Program, commonly called CDAP, that are know for taking an active role in the life of America’s youth, to teach them the dangers of dealing with drugs.

The Drug Education for Youth program has the same mission. The DEFY

program helps build self-esteem in youth 9 to 12 years old. It provides them with the tools they need to resist drugs, gangs, and alcohol.

Initially developed by the Drug Demand Reduction Task Force, DEFY of Hawaii is sponsored by the Navy and restricted to military youth. A two phase program, during phase one the children are taught self-management skills, drug resistance and information skills, general and social skills, and the importance of physical fitness.

During the second phase, they receive lessons about the importance of giving back to their community, and the DEFY participants take part in a community service project.

Most recently, DEFY of Hawaii lended a helping hand to the USS Missouri, affectionately called the “Mighty Mo.”

“This is our yearly community service project,” said Daryl Picadura, program coordinator. “Normally, we do a beach cleanup, but I thought [the USS Missouri] was a better project for many reasons.

“The Missouri Memorial is run completely on donations from visitors, so the staff is always looking for volunteers to help keep Mighty Mo

clean.

“I also chose the project because, not only would we be helping to preserve a piece of history, we could teach the children about the ship as we cleaned. Plus, it showed them that to give back you have to be willing to put a little sweat into it,” explained Picadura.

The DEFY youth said they were indeed pleased that Picadura had chosen the Missouri as their community service project.

“It feels pretty good. We are cleaning and making it better for the people who visit the ship,” said Blake Picadura, a DEFY participant. “It is important to do community service work, ‘cause if we didn’t, things wouldn’t be nice when people visit.

“The most important thing I learned in the program was ‘don’t do drugs, make the right choices and community service work makes things better for everyone’,” Blake added.



Sgt. Jereme Edwards

Chase Lambert (left), a DEFY participant, and Cpl. Tim Leazott, DEFY program counselor, use teamwork to sweep the deck of the USS Missouri.



Sgt. Jereme Edwards

Bliven Szakacsy, in DEFY, sweeps up dust in the area of the Mighty Mo for which she is responsible.

Sergeants and below who dare to become Combat Correspondents and would pride themselves on telling the Marine Corps story can seize the opportunity with a lateral move into the 4341 occupational field. Contact Staff Sgt. Robert Carlson at the Public Affairs Office, 257-8840, for details.

Lethal Breeze blows through MCBH responds to disaster

Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Press Chief

Forty people sit quietly in a theater watching the previews before a new movie. The smell of popcorn and sugar fills the air as the lights dim and the movie is about to begin.

Suddenly, a hacking cough resonates throughout the entire room. And, instead of suppressing, the coughing only gets worse and passes on to more and more people — until everyone in the theater is writhing in agony on the theater floor, having been exposed to chemical toxins put there by someone with harmful intent.

Meanwhile, across town, a suspicious vehicle has been found to contain explosives.

A bomb squad stands by to try and disarm it.

With a huge crisis looming, how will the community respond?

These events didn't take place in Riyadh, Moscow, or Northern Ireland, but right here aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, as the scenario for Exercise Lethal Breeze 2003.

Acting victims lined the



Cpl. Jason E. Miller

Providing first response, federal firefighters checked on the status of many contaminated victims during the Lethal Breeze mock-chemical attack. Each victim was thoroughly sanitized before receiving clearance to seek further medical attention.

ground near the Boondocker theater as the Federal Fire Department responded, first, to the call.

Victims who were still able to move about were treated and sanitized by firemen whom set up a mobile decontamination area in response to the threat. The victims were then taken to the Branch Medical Clinic for further treatment.

To further add realism to the exercise, real and acting media were present to test the information output of those involved with

the exercise.

Acting media members repeatedly tried to push the limits of the responders and were turned away before causing much disruption.

The exercise then turned its attention to an explosive-rigged vehicle found near the Ft. Hase Beach area. Base explosive ordnance disposal technicians responded to the call to secure the vehicle before any damage could be done by an explosion.

The scenario stretched MCB Hawaii's crisis reaction to the limits; yet it

tested the installation's ability to cope with a chemical attack, or any other crisis scenario.

The lessons learned will help the base better handle these kinds of threats in the future, if they should unfortunately occur.

Community Research Association, out of Washington D.C., put on the exercise to test MCB Hawaii's capabilities in a terrorist threat.

Thirteen Washington officials monitored the exercise and gave input that will improve the base's future response to any crisis.



Staff Sgt. Gil Tovar

Marines from 1st Platoon, Combat Engineer Co., Combat Assault Bn., conduct an in-stride breach to clear a minefield during a Combined Arms Live-Fire exercise at Camp Fuji, Japan.

Units strengthen reach at CALFEX

Cpl. Ryan D. Libbert
III MEF Public Affairs Office

CAMP FUJI, Japan — Selected units from 3rd Marine Division recently participated in a Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise within the training area here.

Marines of 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regiment, conducted battalion-sized assaults on particular objectives, employing Fox, Golf and Weapons companies during the CALFEX.

"On the live-fire range, there were simulated enemy positions," explained Sgt. Charles R. Lee, squad leader, Golf Co. "Each company was tasked to attack those positions.

"It was a full-scale attack for the battalion, but at the same time, the companies got to do their own training."

Each company spent a full day on the range. When not firing, they rehearsed their maneuvers or posted security, Lee added.

The CALFEX also provided training opportunities for K-Bay's Charlie Battery, 1st Bn., 12th Marines, and for Combat Assault



Staff Sgt. Bill P. Denman

Marines from Light Armored Reconnaissance company, Combat Assault Bn., offer protection for Golf Co. 2nd Bn., 3rd Marines, during the CALFEX.

Bn., as they worked to support 2/3's training objectives.

"The role of [Charlie Battery] was to support [2nd Battalion] in the quickest and most efficient way possible," said 1st Lt. Nolan L. Moxley, executive officer. "They had a three-prong attack, and [the battery] was there to support their maneuvering elements and attacks, by helping to destroy and neutralize parts of the enemy force."

"The Marines performed awesome ... despite the weather elements that were out there," said

Moxley. "It is our mission to maintain the capabilities to support the infantry."

Combat Assault Bn., a composite of light armored reconnaissance, amphibious assault vehicles and combat engineers, assisted 2/3 by clearing a path through dangerous terrain.

Marines from Combat Engineer Co., using assets from an Amphibious Assault Vehicle and a combined anti-armor team, were tasked to breach minefields during the CALFEX, said Sgt. Kevin M. Smith, squad leader.

Every unit participating in the CALFEX was part of a rare experience, as this type of exercise is not a regular occurrence in the Marine Corps, according to Capt. Jacques Sims, range control officer for Camp Fuji.

"It's rare that Marines find themselves in an area where they can conduct combined arms training in the Pacific area," said Sims. "Camp Fuji is the only place in the Asia-Pacific region where the Marine Corps can conduct this type of training."

The CALFEX proved that teamwork has been, and will always be, a valuable asset during operations.

WORD ON THE STREET

“What is the single best piece of advice you can give a new Marine?”



"Make wise choices and choose your friends carefully."

Lance Cpl. Erik Moreno

Protocol NCO
Headquarters Bn.,
MCB Hawaii

"The best advice I could give them is to not drink underage and listen to your senior Marines and NCOs."

Pfc. Josh Flory

Machinegunner
Weapons Co., 3/3



"Ask someone to give you a tour of the base and learn where everything is. Then save money to buy a car."

Airman Taylor Gaffney

Aircraft handler
VPU-2

"I always tell them to find a Marine worthy of emulating and follow in their footsteps. You should always strive to reach the highest pinnacle."

Gunnery Sgt. James Lash

Radio chief
2/3



"I would tell them that this command and duty station is what you make of it, and to do their best at their job."

Petty Officer 3rd Class George Hidalgo

Hospital corpsman
CSSG-3

GUNG-HO



SALUTES

Sergeants Course Class-03

*First place
Honor Graduate*

Sgt. Charles H. Zimmerman

*Second Place
Honor Graduate*

Sgt. Jimmy B. Hutson

*Third Place
Honor Graduate*

Sgt. Jimmy T. Baxley

*Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps
Writing Award*

First Place
Sgt. Julian T. Frank Jr.

Runner-Up
Sgt. Kekoaglen Gaunavinaka

Honorable Mention
Sgt. Marcos Soto

...Rollin’ ...Rollin’ ...Rollin’



Sgt. Jereme Edwards

Above — Crew members of the Pegasus Leader guide Humvees into the weld deck before prepping them for shipment. Right — Motor transport operators with CSSG-3 continue to move into the weld deck of the Pegasus.



CSSG-3 heads ‘em up and moves ‘em out for exercise Cobra Gold ‘03

Cpl. Jason E. Miller
Press Chief

More than 300 Combat Service Support Group 3 Marines and Sailors from MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, are preparing to leave the comforts of paradise and head to Exercise Cobra Gold 2003 in Thailand.

The detachment of Marines will support the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade while serving as part of the ground combat element. Marines from Marine Aircraft Group 24 will also be heading to

Thailand to head up the aviation combat element.

“We’re going to be doing a lot of cross training with the Thai military,” said Gunnery Sgt. John Gregory, future operations chief for CSSG-3. “We plan to do a NEO [noncombatant evacuation operation], as well as participate in some other training scenarios while we’re there.”

The CSSG-3 Marines are scheduled to depart, beginning Monday, and are not slated to return until June.

Many pieces of machinery, gear and vehicles necessary for the group to meet mission standards will be deployed along with the Marines. Logistics devil dogs loaded up tons of gear on the Pegasus Leader during the past week, which will transport it all to Thailand.



Sgt. Jereme Edwards

Lance Cpl. Jonathan Spangler (left), a motor transport operator with CSSG-3, awaits further instructions from Sgt. Javier Diaz (right background), the port operations group NCOIC, before proceeding.

Golden Eagles bond with Japanese P3 squadron

Lt. j.g.
Robert A. Arreola
Patrol Squadron 9

KANOYA, Japan — March 19, Crew 10 of Patrol Squadron 9, along with the executive officer and other members of the squadron, visited the VP-1 Sluggers of the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force based here.

The VP-1 Sluggers are a P-3C squadron, which was hosting the Golden Eagles for the event called “The Bonds of Friendship.”

The main purpose of this goodwill trip was to brief the Japanese on P-3 Orion propeller malfunctions and emergency procedures.

The two day trip would allow members of both squadrons to share cultures as well as create friendships.

Upon arrival of the VP-9 aircraft, every member of VP-1 greeted the Golden Eagles with a presentation of the United States flag and the Japanese flag.

Every member of VP-9 was then paired with a member of VP-1, to ensure each person was individually hosted, which added a more personal experience.

After refreshments and initial briefs, both squadrons participated in a softball game, followed by visits to an onsen, which is a traditional Japanese bath house.

All members then proceeded to a Japanese dinner and a tour of the local night life in town.

The following day, the Golden Eagles received a tour of the Kanoya Naval Aviation Museum, which presented the history of the old Imperial Naval Aviation and the modern Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force.

From the museum, everyone traveled by bus to observe the Mount of Aira, where the emperor’s parents are entombed at the top of a mountain, at the base of a natural

stream.

The Golden Eagles discovered the long, rich history of Kanoya, as well as the customs and traditions of the Japanese people, throughout the tour.

Before their departure, squadron members exchanged gifts with members of VP-1, which included squadron patches and a presentation of colors from both countries.

Everyone involved in the JMSDF visit said they enjoyed learning about each other’s lifestyles and backgrounds. The Bonds of Friendship exchange lived up to its title.



Courtesy of VP-9

While in Kanoya, Japan, members of Patrol Squadron 9 took the opportunity to capture lasting memories and posed for a photo with members of the JMSDF during the “Bonds of Friendship” visit.



HAGEE

COMMANDANT,
From A-1

have ever held. There is no other military that can accomplish the things we have.”

McMichael also addressed the war in Iraq and how the Marine Corps has played a vital role in its success.

Before departing MCB Hawaii, Gen. Hagee and McMichael took pictures with Marines and Sailors and answered questions at the base theater.

“There is no better time to be a Marine than the present,” said Gen. Hagee to the Marines aboard MCB Hawaii. “Our Corps today is strong, motivated and intelligent. We have the ability to carry out any mission we are presented with.”



Sgt. Joe Lindsay

Above — Members of Weapons Co., 1/3, bid MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, farewell as they prepare to depart on a seven-month deployment to Okinawa under the Unit Deployment Program, April 11. Left — Corporal Jared Buchner, a javelin gunner with Weapons Co., 1/3, shares a tender moment with his girlfriend, Adria Urick, before departing for Okinawa.

DEPLOYMENT, From A-1

pump in Okinawa, and the Lava Dogs of 1st Bn., 3rd Marines, took their place.

While on its seven-month deployment, 2/3 embarked on several journeys throughout the free world. Highlights included

training at the Jungle Warfare Training Center, and Operation Forest Light in Japan, which allowed 2/3 to train with the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force.

“It’s awesome to be home; the Marines from 2/3 were ready to come back,” said Maj.

David Bradney, 2/3 operations officer. “Marines are always excited to go on deployments and see the world while experiencing new things.

“They are just as excited to come back home and get back to their regular routines,” explained Bradney.